

MTA-6026
3 December 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT: Monthly Report -- Tel Aviv Bureau -- November 1986

I. GENERAL

On the 13th, following a bureau initiative, the embassy changed over to real-time receipt of FBIS worldwide traffic via the CPU instead of once a day via courier from the bureau. This change will reduce the time spent on distribution by the Commo Section, and will reduce the bureau's paper consumption. The embassy now will be receiving FBIS traffic substantially faster than before. We have eliminated the ironic situation in which the embassy received poorer rather than better service as a direct result of the bureau's presence within the mission. Initial reaction from embassy consumers is very positive. The bureau still provides material via courier to USIS and the MFO (Multinational Forces and Observers).

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. The bureau extended operating hours on the 25th to cover Israeli reaction to U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese's statement on the Iranian arms affair in which he revealed that Israel had shipped U.S. weapons to Iran. Meese's revelations appeared to have taken the Israeli leadership by surprise. Shamir, Peres, and Rabin convened a hasty meeting, excluding the rest of the cabinet. After several hours, just before Jerusalem Domestic Service signed off, they issued a terse statement conceding Israeli involvement in the arms shipments, but denying any knowledge of the transfer of monies to the Contras. Predictably, the issue has dominated the Israeli news scene.

B. Technical

1. Six Extel RO printers and a box of spare parts for same were pouched to Nicosia bureau on the 5th.

2. Bureau received two new charger/regulators and four batteries for the bureau microwave link with the embassy. One of the charger/regulators has been installed to date.

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III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. The State Department approved an embassy proposal for a 5 percent cost of living increase in the annual base salary of foreign nationals effective 1 November. Embassy/Personnel is currently in the process of conducting its annual wage survey, and the results should be known shortly. There will probably be another wage increase -- of undetermined amount -- in the very near future.

2. Bureau Technician [] began 3 weeks of military leave on 16 November. STAT

3. Former Nicosia Bureau Hebrew/Arabic monitor [] EOD'ed on 26 October.

B. Building and Grounds

STAT

1. Following Congressional legislation that effectively killed the prospects for a new chancery building in the near future, a large team of experts from the State Department visited the mission in mid-November to assess the feasibility of 'retrofitting' the chancery for additional years of service. Members of the retrofit team visited the bureau in connection with proposals for moving various components out of the overcrowded chancery. The bureau chief briefed the team members on the bureau's experience with the building, provided details on maintenance contracts and other subjects, and gave a guided tour of the building. Even before the end of the visit it was clear that there are no good options open to those in the chancery.

2. Azorim, the construction company that built [] Building, continues to fix those defects in the bureau identified in the end-of-year inspection as falling under the provisions of the original warranty. STAT

3. The local contractor delivered the long-awaited lazy susan for the editorial operation in early November. The 31"x31"x18" lazy susan, based on a [] original design" and modified for local requirements, contains all the substantive and administrative boards required by the editors as well as all primary reference works. The design allows four people to sit around the unit and read-in simultaneously, and it has quickly won approval from even hardened cynics. STAT

C. Security

1. The bureau was given its first comprehensive security audit by two visiting inspectors 30 October-4 November. The results were forwarded to Headquarters, and the bureau now awaits the final, formal recommendations, which include some big-ticket items.

2. The bureau chief, together with the heads of the other mission components, participated in many long meetings devoted to updating the mission Emergency & Evacuation plan, the first comprehensive, significant revision in years.

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IV. VISITS

1. Two headquarters security inspectors TDY'ed at the bureau 30 Oct-4 November for the first complete evaluation of the new bureau premises since FBIS took occupancy in September 1985.

2. [] deputy chief/ADD/ESG, and three senior LEC contractors on TDY at the bureau 2-4 November for briefings and orientation on bureau operations in connection with the low-cost automated bureau project. STAT

3. [] AG Middle East Branch Chief, on TDY at the bureau on the 4th for briefings and orientation. STAT

4. Editor [] returned from R&R travel in Europe on the 10th. STAT

5. Editor [] departed on R&R travel to the States on the 20th. STAT

V. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

[] demonstrated her culinary skills when she prepared a delicious Brunswick stew for 70 people attending a dinner and history lecture sponsored by the American Embassy Wives Group. Reliable sources report that [] assisted in the preparation and serving of the main course. STAT

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Chief, FBIS Tel Aviv Bureau

cc: JN, NC

Attachments: a. Production Report
b. Communications Report

Tel Aviv Bureau Production Report for November 1986

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	201310
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	50260
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	657

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: (minutes or issues per week)	7633.00 min.	840.00 min.	58.00 issues

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:
(publishable words per month)

Clandestine Bayrak Radio in Turkish	6240
Clandestine Bayrak Radio in English	0
Clandestine Free Voice of Iran in Persian	140
Clandestine Our Radio in Turkish	3820
Clandestine Voice of Turkish Communist party in Turkish	3890
Clandestine Voice of the Liberation of Iran in Persian	1360

CYPRUS

Nicosia ANATOLIA in Turkish	0
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GREECE

Athens in English to South Africa	0
Athens in English to Australia	0

ISRAEL

Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew	47080
Jerusalem Domestic Service in English	13360

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew	9250		
Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic	5200		
Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew	8740		
Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic			3670
Jerusalem AL-FAJR in English			1570
Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic			2060
Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic			3780
Jerusalem AL-SHA'B in Arabic			1120
Jerusalem AL-TALI'AH Arabic			0
Jerusalem Domestic Service in Spanish			0
Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE in English			260
Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English			13000
Tel Aviv KOTERET RASHIT in Hebrew			0
Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew			4360
Tel Aviv BEMAHANE in Hebrew			0
Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew			4430
Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew			11050
Tel Aviv HA'OLAM HAZE in Hebrew			0
Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew			3360
Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew			1060
Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew			11290
Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew			3330
SOVIET UNION			
Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Hebrew	0		
Moscow in Turkish	0		

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Moscow in Dari	0		
TURKEY			
Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish	23870		
Ankara ANATOLIA in Turkish		2660	
Ankara ANATOLIA in English		10850	
Ankara ANATOLIA in French		510	
Istanbul CUMHURIYET in Turkish			0
Istanbul HURRIYET in Turkish			0
UNITED KINGDOM			
London BBC World Service in English	0		

TEL AVIV BUREAU MONTHLY COMMUNICATIONS REPORT FOR OCT . 19 86 ATTACHMENT B

1. TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED WAS 201,310 (165,510)
TOTAL NONPUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED WAS 50,260 (60,140)
DAILY WORDAGE FILED AVERAGED 8,386 (7,279)
HIGHEST DAILY WORDAGE FILED WAS 17,400 on 27/11/86
LOWEST DAILY WORDAGE FILED WAS 1,940 on 01/11/86
2. OUTAGES ON OUTGOING SKYMUX CIRCUIT TOTALED 21.5 HOURS, 4.3 PERCENT.
OUTAGES ON INCOMING SKYMUX CIRCUIT TOTALED 21.5 HOURS, 4.3 PERCENT.

OUTAGES:

06.11.86 - [] MUX went down
08.11.86 - Satellite Antenna off track
09.11.86 - Problems at []
10.11.86 - Problems at []

STAT

STAT

3. WORDS FILED VIA TELEX DURING OUTAGES OF THE SKYMUX CIRCUIT: 370

NB. Figures from preceding month in Parentheses.